Western Washington Amateur Relay Association

The Coordinator

Seattle Times
Bothell, WA

Seattle Times Hosts WWARA Meeting

April 2, 1999 marked the return of the WWARA to the Seattle Times Building in Bothell. Thanks to Pete Krum N7KFJ, the WWARA has had a great meeting room to host its General Membership Business meeting. The room while being comfortable offers an excellent sound system, and audio visual equipment for enhancing WWARA presentations. Pete even went to the efforts to ensure coffee and donuts were available.

Turn out in April was sparse. Only about 12 or so people besides the board members attended the meeting. Fortunately the WWARA By-laws provide that a quorum is those who attend the meeting. The unfortunate side of this is that a very few individuals make policy decisions for all WWARA members and coordinated systems.*(Editors note: The WWARA in any given year has about 100 paid members and manages about 500 different coordinated frequency operations. Lately, typically less than 10% of the paid members and less than 3% of the coordinated frequencies are represented at the WWARA meetings.)*

The general membership meeting started at 10:00 or there abouts by chairman Marcinko and was adjourned several hours later. The hot topics for discussion included the typical reports from the different band and technical committee chairmen and some short discussions relating to our neighbors. Of most interest was a rather lengthy discussion between Ed Grafton, KB7RII and Jon Marcinko, WR7JM over the 147.26 Naneum Ridge and the west side repeater in Sumner. Details can be found in the Organizations minutes.

Time's meeting room with WWARA members present

The Board of Directors was hoping for a larger turn out as a result of Clay Freinwald's - K7CR's comments in April's Clay's Corner. The WWARA plans on holding the remaining General membership meetings in August and December at the Seattle Time's Bothell facility.

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AES FOUNDER TERRY J. STERMAN, W9DIA, SK

Terry Sterman, W9DIA, the man who founded Amateur Electronic Supply as a teenager in the 1950s, has died. He was 60 and had been in ill health for several years. Press reports say Sterman, who lived alone, died March 30 following a fire in his Northwest Milwaukee home.

Terry Sterman
W9DIA - SK

First licensed in 1953, Sterman got into the Amateur Radio business as a teenager working in his father's TV and electronics parts store, Harris Radio Corporation, in his home town of Fond du Lac, Wisconsin. He went on to have a substantial impact on the ham radio marketplace. He founded Amateur Electronic Supply in 1957, when he was just 18 and still attending Milwaukee School of Engineering and commuting weekends to work at his father's store.

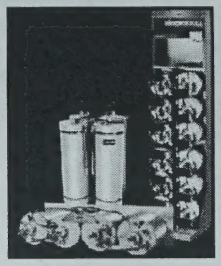
Sterman had suffered from serious health problems since 1988, according to his long-time friend and associate Ray Grenier, K9KHW, who had worked with Sterman at AES from the early years. AES changed hands January 1, 1998. The new owner is Amateur Electronic Supply LLC, headed by Phil Majerus, a prominent Wisconsin businessman.

Survivors include Sterman's wife, Elin, as well as a daughter and a brother. Services were April 2.

REMEC, INC. ANNOUNCES ACQUISITION OF WACOM PRODUCTS, INC.

San Diego, CA—REMEC, Inc. (NASDAQ: REMC) announced that it has completed the acquisition of Wacom Products, Inc. in a purchase transaction. Wacom Products, a privately held company, designs, develops and manufactures radio frequency filter products for use in radio communication systems.

Wacom Products provides commercial radio frequency filter solutions for specialized communications applications. Its products consist primarily of bandpass cavity filters, notch filters, duplexers, ferrite isolators, transmitter combiners and receiver multi-coupler systems operating in the 30 MHz to 1900MHz range. In addition, Wacom is in the process of developing a comprehensive line of base station antennas for the two-way radio industry.



Mr. Ragland stated that, "The addition of Wacom expands REMEC's special technology skills in service of its Cellular and PCS customers. REMEC intends to expand Wacom at its present location in Waco, Texas by accelerating the development of Wacom's high performance, affordable base station antenna and fully integrated RF products, and by marketing existing and future Wacom products world wide. Further, Wacom and Airtech plc possess complementary products in similar markets. Our recent acquisition of Smartwaves International will further our antenna endeavors at Wacom."

REMEC is a leader in the design and manufacture of microwave multi-function modules for microwave transmissions systems used in defense applications and the commercial wireless telecommunications market.

Certain statements in this press release may constitute "forward-looking statements" which are subject to known and unknown risks and uncertainties including, among other things, certain economic conditions, competition development factors and operating costs that may cause the actual results to differ materially from results implied by such forward-looking statements.

New ARRL Repeater Directory Editor

The ARRL has written to the National Frequency Coordinators Council to inform them that on April 1st, Tom Hogerty , KC1J will replace Jay Mabey, NU0X, as the Editor of the ARRL Repeater Directory. The change is the result of a reorganization at League Headquarters.

Hogerty has been on the ARRL staff for 11 years and is currently assigned to the Field & Educational Services Department. Among his responsibilities were Regulatory Information matters, and acting as ombudsman. Hogerty also works with the Insurance City Repeater Club of Hartford, Connecticut, which sponsors three repeaters. He was instrumental in the club's development of a three-tier packet network node site.

Meanwhile Jay Mabey has accepted the position of Assistant Contest Manager in the Membership Services Department.

New Connecticut Coordination Council

Mark Casey, K1MAP, has succeeded where others have failed. As a result, the State of Connecticut now has a budding repeater coordination council that seems ready, willing and able to rebuild the ham radio communities faith in the voluntary coordination effort.

Mark has been working for the past several weeks to revitalize repeater coordination. The State had been associated with the now defunct Tri-State Amateur Repeater Council. When T-Sark's political structure fell to pieces two years ago, it's demise left Connecticut literally holding the coordination bag.

But on Sunday, March 21st, it all began to change. That's when a group of sixteen Amateurs representing forty-two Connecticut repeaters met at the Southington High School and voted to form the Connecticut Spectrum Management Association. The purpose of CSMA, as voted, is to provide coordination services in the repeater sections of the Amateur Bands above 29 MHZ. This, in cooperation with already established surrounding regional coordination entities.

CSMA is currently being guided by an interim steering committee. Elections will be held for all offices at the next meeting on June 6th. Casey says that the new groups initial focus will be to organize, compile a proper list of active repeaters, and to offer recommendations to new repeaters seeking a home. He adds that all interested Amateurs are invited to attend the June meeting.

Ham Trader Yellow Sheets goes QRT

After thirty-eight years the Ham Trader Yellow Sheets is going QRT. Larry Hogue, W6MOF reports over the VHF Reflector that the twice-monthly classified publication announced in its latest edition that it is being absorbed into the Amateur Radio Trader magazine. Yellow Sheets subscribers will automatically get an Amateur Radio Trader subscription. Hams who subscribed to both will have their Amateur Radio Trader subscription extended.

Amateur Radio Trader of Crossville, Tennessee, is published by TAP Publishing. These are the same people known in aviation circles for the famed Trade-A-Plane magazine

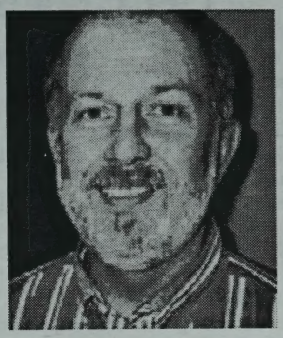
FCC DENIES EXTENSION IN MALICIOUS INTERFERENCE CASE

The FCC has denied Extra licensee Kornwell Chan, W3CI, of Dresher, Pennsylvania, an extension of time to reply to a March 10, 1999, Notice of Apparent Liability to Monetary Forfeiture. Chan sent his request for extension via the office of US Sen Richard Santorum. FCC Legal Adviser for Enforcement Riley Hollingsworth noted April 6 that Chan was visited by FCC personnel February 21 and did not request an extension until March 29.

Chan and Technician licensee Michael E. Gallagher, KB1DTA (ex-KB3DHX), of W Concord, Massachusetts, each received $7500 fines from the FCC in connection with malicious interference to the Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club VHF and UHF repeaters. Following up on complaints from the Phil-Mont club, FCC personnel monitored interfering signals which included transmissions of classical music and a person talking with a disguised voice. In February, FCC personnel tracked the signal to a vehicle in Willow Grove, Pennsylvania, occupied by Chan and Gallagher, and equipped with amateur gear.

The FCC cited both licensees for failing to operate "in accordance with good amateur practice," failing to identify as required, transmitting music on amateur frequencies, and willfully impeding legitimate amateur communications. Chan and Gallagher reportedly told FCC officials that Chan used Gallagher's station to transmit music on amateur frequencies. The FCC said Gallagher "is equally responsible" for transmissions made using his station.

CLAY'S CORNER



Clay Freinwald - K7CR

Since we last met between these pages a number of interesting things have taken plan on the National Front. In April I attended the National Association of Broadcasters convention in Las Vegas This is my annual time to look at the new gizmo's that the manufacturers have thought up and to set thru a number of meetings and tech sessions etc.

To give a sense of how big this event is, it runs 5 ½ days, has 1400 exhibitors, covers about 850,000 square feet and is attended by well over 100,000 from every corner of the world. Every year, on Wednesday evening, there is a reception for Hams, this years event was hosted by Svetlanta, the Russian tube maker (In years past it was Eimac, certainly sign of the times).

Last year the new head of the FCC's Compliance and Information Branch, Richard Lee, stood before the 500+ Hams in Broadcasting and told us that the FCC was going to get back into enforcement. We all thought...uh-huh. This year Richard was back and with him was Riley Hollingsworth who has been very actively involved in Amateur Enforcement of late. Richard indeed has kept his word with the FCC shutting down hundreds of pirate broadcasters and now becoming more active in cleaning up the Amateur bands. This year was different. Richard Lee and his helper received a very very warm welcome and lots of applause. I had a chance to chat with Richard for a few minutes on a number of subjects, a very nice fellow!

Meanwhile the NFCC continues to work toward getting support for its contention that there should be an FCC rule that requires that repeater systems be coordinated. To that end the NFCB recently sent out questionnaires to the nations coordination organizations asking for case histories that would lend support to the effort. The Illinois Repeater Association has approved a resolution backing the NFCC's effort.

Down in California the Southern California Repeater Remote Base Association, SCRBBA, has taken a page from the WWARA "Play- Book" by opting to increase the number of repeater channels by switching to 20 Khz spacing. This time though its not 2 Meters but rather 440!. SCRBBA, who coordinates everything in SoCal except 2 and 220 recently took the bold step at their meeting on May First. Under the plan some repeaters will change frequency, moving up or down, and some will remain the same. Their stated goal is to have all systems on the new channels in one year or by May 1, 2000.

While I was back in Washington DC in December Bill Kelsey of SCRBBA discussed the fact that SoCal was considering this rather radical approach. Many expressed the feeling that this was the wrong direction to take and that dividing the channels by 2 was the best route..(a very familiar tune). I can remember the debate that raged when the WWARA and Oregon elected to change to "20" on all of two meters many years ago. Some thought we were nuts, some thought we were right and joined us. What will happen now is anyone's guess. Certainly the UHF band is filled in many areas (Western Washington for example) and many are looking for answers as to what to do now. Will SoCal be the only ones to make this change or will others join them is the $64 question.

A couple of things are different today. Just about everyone has a frequency agile radio so the impact will be mainly be on the repeater owners as opposed to the impact on the users when we changed 2 meters. And...we have Electronic Communications. Today it will be easy to debate the pro's and cons of the SoCal change. Its quite possible that the WWARA will want to, at least, look at this very closely, but like the change on 2 meters, we will have to work with Oregon as RF does not stop at the border. Souther California is lucky in that they are in their own little corner of the world with very little RF getting out of their "neighborhood".

There is one thing for sure about being involved in coordination, there is never a dull moment. Let me hear your thoughts, give me a call or drop me an email to k7cr@wolfenet.com

See ya at the June Meeting.

Clay, K7CR

FCC Shuts Down Toublesome Bay Area Repeater

The FCC has shut down for 120 days the K7IJ repeater facility on Grizzly Peak in the San Francisco Bay area. The FCC also told the licensee, Bruce Wachtell of Carson City, Nevada, that his ham ticket could be in jeopardy. The FCC took the action by modifying K7IJ's license to prohibit repeater operation starting midnight February 28, 1999. The repeater operates on 145.29, 223.78, 440.175, and 441.175 MHz.

In related actions, the FCC also set aside recent license grants of four individuals accused of unlicensed operation on the repeater prior to obtaining their amateur tickets and other behavior. The cases, the first major VHF/UHF enforcement actions the FCC has taken in recent months, were brought to the Commission's attention by the Amateur Auxiliary.

The FCC's Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH, said that for almost a year, the repeater's control operator, identified as Blake B. Jenkins, N6YSA, of Berkeley, California, ''has apparently not only allowed, but encouraged, use of the repeater by unlicensed operators, rebroadcast of cordless telephone calls, playing of music, and profanity and obscenity.'' He said extended QSOs have taken place between the control operator and unlicensed stations.

Riley Hollingsworth K4ZDH

Hollingsworth said the situation was brought to Wachtell's attention, but nothing was done. He said Jenkins' ''actions and omissions'' while control operator were under separate FCC review, along with those of the secondary control op, Steven R. Rossi, KE6LNH, of Novato, California. The FCC set aside the recent license grants or upgrades of James C. Walker, KF6VAA; Gordon B. Reese III, KF6QKA; Michael J. Nichols, KF6UAS; and Eric B. Shuler, KF6BMG (ex-KF6UJU) pending further investigation. The FCC has permitted Reese, who just upgraded to Tech Plus, to retain his Technician operating privileges while its investigation continues.

The FCC also issued warnings to two other individuals in the case.

Events and Happenings

Date	Event / Location
May 8	Stanwood Camano Is ARC Hamfest
May 14 – 16	Dayton Hamvention, Dayton, OH
May 22 – 23	WA State Convention, Yakima, WA
June 3	WWARA Board Meeting - Tacoma
June 4-6	SEAPAC NW Division Convention, Seaside, OR
June 26-27	ARRL Field Day
July 16-18	Glacier / Waterton International Hamfest, E. Glacier, MT
July 30-Aug1	NW DX convention, Portland, OR
July 31	Coos Bay ARC Hamfest, Bandon, OR
Aug 6-14	FRG-99 Games, Portland, OR
Aug 7	WWARA Meeting Bothell, WA
Aug 7-8	Eastern WA ST, Spokane, WA
Aug 21	Lower Columbia ARA, Longview, WA
Sept 11	Radio Club of Tacoma Flea market
Sept 25	Walla Walla Hamfest, Walla Walla, WA
Oct 7	WWARA Board Meeting
Oct 9	North Kitsap Hamfest, Silverdale, WA
Oct 17	Chehalis Valley ARS Hamfest, Chehalis, WA
Oct 23	Swap Toberfest, Reckreal, OR
Oct 30	Bellingham Flea market, Ferndale, WA
Dec 4	WWARA Meeting, Bothell, WA

FCC OFFICIAL ACKNOWLEDGES OOs REALLY ARE "OFFICIAL"

The FCC's top amateur enforcer, Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH, says that hams who receive notices from ARRL Official Observers should take them seriously or take the consequences. "Failure to take the notices seriously and to take corrective action where possible will not be tolerated by the Commission," Hollingsworth said in an enforcement-related letter to a South Carolina amateur. "The volunteer work of these Official Observers is a critical element of the Commission's enforcement program," he said, adding that failure to act on an OO notice could lead to fines and other sanctions.

Hollingsworth's comments were contained in an April 7 station-inspection follow-up letter to Richard Whiten, WB2OTK, of Easely, South Carolina. Hollingsworth and an FCC engineering team visited Whiten's station on January 22 after what Hollingsworth called "long-standing complaints" about the operation of Whiten's station. Whiten reportedly cooperated in the station inspection. According to the FCC letter, the Commission has received "numerous complaints" about Whiten "regarding profanity, obscenity, broadcasting extreme racial slurs, deliberate interference and failure to properly identify." Hollingsworth also said he'd heard complaints that Whiten had played

recordings over the air "for the purpose of harassment or deliberate interference."

Hollingsworth noted that Whiten had "apparently ignored notices from Official Observers," and pointed out that the volunteer OOs work "in accordance with an agreement between the Commission and the ARRL and in accordance with our statutory authority."

"One thing I have really picked up as I travel around to groups is the frustration of the OOs," Hollingsworth told the League this week. "We're going to correct that, pure and simple."

In his letter, he told Whiten that, although the FCC considers hams to be self-policing, "the success of that regulatory approach depends upon the adherence to notices of possible improper operation from other licensed amateurs who are recognized Official Observers." The FCC asked Whiten to list all notices from OOs he has received since the start of his license term on September 27, 1994, and any corrective actions taken in response.

The FCC also set aside a February 10, 1999, grant of the vanity call sign W2OTK to Whiten and said his license expiration date remains October 15, 2001.

Hollingsworth also took advantage of the opportunity provided by his letter to Whiten to spell out the FCC's position on obscene and indecent Amateur Radio transmissions. "Obscene speech is not protected by the First Amendment and cannot be broadcast at any time," he advised. Indecent speech also is not protected between 6 AM and 10 PM, in accordance with the so-called "safe harbor" policy the FCC uses with commercial broadcasters.

Hollingsworth said that while FCC personnel did not notice any technical violations during their January inspection, they did have "serious concerns" about a linear amplifier under construction that was capable of greater than legal output. Hollingsworth asked Whiten to provide details of the amplifier and how it's been used.

Hollingsworth also told Whiten he would be forwarding, under separate cover, tape recordings made of Whiten's transmissions last November on 20 meters. "You will be requested to provide a full explanation for those radio transmissions," he wrote.

"No decisions have been made yet in this case," Hollingsworth told the League. "We're still seeking information."

WWARA Coorespondence Log

02/28/1999	Email correspondence to Jon Marcinko, WR7JM
03/02/1999	Email from Bill Rourke, W7ERH
03/04/1999	TD sheet from Bud Davenport, KA7GCT
03/07/1999	Email correspondence from Scott Henry, KJ7FD
	Dues from Albert Oczkewicz, W7CSK
	Dues from Gary Lewis, WA7BBJ
	Dues from Western WA Repeater Asso.
03/08/1999	Email correspondence to Scott Henry, KJ7FD
	Email correspondence to Mark McKibbin, WR7V
03/09/1999	Email correspondence from Steve van Gaalen, VE7SVG
03/11/1999	Email correspondence to Jon Marcinko, WR7JM
	Email correspondence to Rob Lee, K7TGU
03/12/1999	Email correspondence from Ivory Jackson, N7CHN
	Email correspondence to Ivory Jackson, N7CHN
	Email correspondence to Jon Marcinko, WR7JM
03/13/1999	Dues from Mark McClain, N6OBY
03/14/1999	Email correspondence from George Nelson, K7GEN
03/18/1999	Fees, TD sheet, and Dues from John Stein, AB7F
	Email to/from Mike Olds, WA7ZUS
03/23/1999	Email correspondence from James Keightley, KC7QOV
03/24/1999	Fees and TD sheets from Loren Hole, KK7M
	TD sheet from Matt Kula, KJ7HS
	Fee and TD sheet from Robert Haselberg, K7MXE
	Email correspondence from Ray Ubis, KG7UB
	Dues and RD from Elmer Clark, KB7OJY
	Fees from James Hall, K7OET
03/26/1999	Email correspondence from Clay Freinwald, K7CR
03/27/1999	Fee and TD sheet from Gary Kohtala, W7NTF
	Fee and TD sheet from Brian Bettger, N7QDY
	Ck for RD from Mark Sheppard, N7LYE
	Fee and TD sheet from Mark Sheppard, N7LYE
03/31/1999	Email correspondence to John Stein, AB7F
04/01/1999	Email correspondence from John Stein, AB7F
04/02/1999	Email correspondence to Mark and Nancy McKibbin, WR7V/KB7BJE
04/03/1999	Dues from Ken Koster, N7IPB
	Online update from Norm Ray/W WA DX Club, W7DX
	Fees and update from NWFACRA, KC7LFW
	Dues from Bob Donnell, KD7NM
	Dues from Clay Freinwald, K7CR
	Correspondence from Gary Kohtala, W7NTF
	Dues from Martha Salot, N7ZCZ
	Email correspondence from Carl Holman, K7CH
04/04/1999	Fee from John Stein, AB7F
	Email correspondence to Carl Holman, K7CH
04/06/1999	Email correspondence from Dick Anderson, KE7A
04/08/1999	Dues from West WA DX Club, W7DX
04/16/1999	Dues from Pete Kruml, N7KFJ
	Ck for RD from Robert Sutton, KD7DPU
04/17/1999	Email correspondence from Chris Grafton, KB7RII
04/21/1999	Fee, TD sheet, and ck for RD from David Swartz, KC7RRH
	Fee and TD sheet from Marc Miller, N6TJQ
	Correspondence from Jim Kaufman, W7UMH
	Ck for RD from Jon Fancher, KD7BLC
04/23/1999	Email correspondence from James Keightley, KC7QOV
04/28/1999	Email correspondence to James Keightley, KC7QOV

(RD= Repeater Directory, TD= Technical Data)

Top 7 Internet Service Providers

America Online - 15 million
CompuServe - 2 million
MSN Internet Access 1.5 million
AT&T World Net - 1.4 million
IBM Internet Connection - 1 million
Earthlink Sprint - 1 million
GTE Internet Solutions - 824K

Meeting Notice

The next WWARA Board of Directors meeting will be June 3, 1999 at the Radio Club of Tacoma Club House, 1249 South Washington, Tacoma. The meeting will begin at 7:00pm with the Secretary being availble at 6:45pm.

Coordinations up for Renew

The following WWARA coordinations are either expired or are comming up for renewal this year. Please check and see if you or your favorite repeater is on the list. It has been the past policy of the WWARA that when a frequency has expired and is not renewed within six months of the expiration the WWARA assumes that you no longer are using the frequency and that you are returning it to the pool of available frequencies. If this is not the case and you wish to continue to use the frequency(s), it is YOUR obligation to keep the WWARA informed.

Renewals are easy! You can either mail a new technical data sheet to the WWARA's post office box or use the online renewal form found at the WWARA's web site. Either process will require a renewal processing fee for each transmitter and location. No additional or separate notices will be mailed.

Name	Frequency	Location	Call	Expiration Date
Mike Ballew	446.525	Aberdeen	N7KSI	28-Sep-98
Brian Bettger	146.660	North Point	N7QDY	27-Sep-98
	449.875	North Point	N7QDY	27-Sep-98
Thomas Bigelow	224.420	Squak Mountain	KB7WPO	5-Aug-97
Bill Boyle	1246.100	Tacoma	KB7CNN	11-Jun-97
Bob Brunkow	145.130	Stewart Island	K7HNE	17-May-96
Cecil A Burleson	444.175	Tacoma	K7HW	20-Aug-99
Bruce Cheshier	224.760	Baldi Mountain	WB7DOB	3-Aug-98
John L Conley Jr	441.875	Lynnwood	KB7RZZ	27-Jul-99
Jeremy Donimirski	442.125	Lake Tapps	W7YG	5-Aug-98
Robert Donnell	146.980	Baldi Mountain	N7NKJ	6-Jul-99
Glenn Engel	443.475	Lake Stevens	NN7N	24-Sep-99
Clay Freinwald	441.625	Tacoma	K7CR	10-Jul-99
Earl Garber	441.700	Longview	N3EG	8-Aug-99
Brian Good	223.920	Green Mountain	WB7FDD	12-Aug-98
Jim Hall	440.550	Seattle	K7OET	23-Sep-98
	442.225	Carnation	K7OET	23-Sep-98
	442.238	Seattle	K7OET	23-Sep-98
	444.350	Mt Vernon	K7OET	23-Sep-98
	444.800	Lynnwood	K7OET	23-Sep-98
	447.225	Lynnwood	K7OET	23-Sep-98
	447.250	Seattle	K7OET	23-Sep-98
Allen Hart	1290.950	King Mountain	N7FYU	11-Jul-99
Mike Hart	147.260	Longview	K7ZVV	20-Aug-99
	439.200	Longview	K7ZVV	20-Aug-99
	439.300	Longview	K7ZVV	20-Aug-99
	439.500	Green Mountain	K7ZVV	20-Aug-99
Peter Kallio	440.700	Port Orchard	N7ENT	15-Sep-99
	441.425	Port Orchard	N7ENT	15-Sep-99
William Kenner	1292.300	Seattle	KB7FAA	17-Jul-98
Gary Kohtala	145.290	Tacoma	WA7NTF	2-Jun-98
Harry Lewis	146.820	Seattle	K7LED	10-Jun-98
Denny Lim	224.280	Fall City	WA7TQS	29-Sep-98
	442.925	Fall City	WA7TQS	29-Sep-98
Jon Marcinko	145.230	Dieringer	WR7JM	17-Oct-98
	430.400	Issaquah	WR7JM	17-Oct-98
	444.250	Baldi Mountain	WR7JM	17-Oct-98
Steven Mayes	443.050	Bellevue	KA7PMC	2-Sep-98
John Mc Allister	224.520	Tacoma	W7MSR	23-Aug-99
	440.400	Tacoma	W7MSR	23-Aug-99
Jay Morrison	145.290	Everett	WB7VYA	30-Jul-97
Jerry Moseley	441.325	Port Townsend	KA7ZEM	24-Jun-99
Alan Muenzel	439.450	Seattle	N7GAD	4-Jun-99
Charles Northcutt	146.900	Seattle	W7SRZ	9-Sep-98
	1292.000	Seattle	W7SRZ	9-Sep-98
Steven O'kelley	443.375	Seattle	N7IO	5-Aug-98

FCC crackdown continues

The FCC crackdown against hams who cause problems for other radio amateurs continues. This with word that warning letters that have gone out to another group of hams who the FCC alleges to be in violation of the Part 97 Amateur Service Rules. One will even have to stand for re-examination.

The letters from regulatory FCC rules enforcer Riley Hollingsworth go out to about a half dozen radio amateurs and cover a wide variety of alleged infractions. These range from warning a Novice class ham that someone has been heard using his call on the two meter band to more serious charges against a radio amateur alleging the transmission of words that hams are not supposed to use on the air.

This letter is sent to an Illinois ham. In it the FCC accuses him of transmitting profane and indecent language. It also claims that on March 13th, that he was heard on 20 and 75 meters apparently harassing other licensed amateurs and preventing the legitimate use of the frequencies by others.

This ham is told that he is apparently in violation of the Amateur Service rules relating to the transmission of indecent or profane language. This says Hollingsworth is contrary to the very basis and purpose of the United States Amateur Radio service as outlined in rule number 97.1 and a violation of several other Part 97 regulations as well.

Another of those singled out by the Commission is a Georgia ham that the FCC seems to consider as using bad on-air operating procedures. The letter to him states that he, or someone using his callsign, was deliberately interfering with and jamming radio communications on the 75 meter band. The FCC letter also says that his callsign was also heard on two meters coordinating these activities with another station in his area. Hollingsworth says that the coordination was taking place on 144.350 MHZ to and was aimed at interfering with other legitimate operators on 3.898, 3.900 and 3.901 MHZ.

Yet another letter goes to a Granite City, Illinois ham. It is a second notice to him and again warns the Technician class license operator to cease his operations on the 20 and 40 meter bands. Hollingsworth warns that operation of radio transmitting equipment on a frequency for which the ham is not licensed is a violation of Section 301 of the Communications Act. He tells the ham that he could be hit with a stiff fine or sent to prison if this alleged activity is not brought to a halt.

Finally, another ham has been told that he must stand for a re-examination. The FCC has directed Joseph Walker, W8JCW, of Gaylord, Michigan, to retake his General and Advanced class amateur examinations under the auspices of an ARRL Volunteer Examination team. Walker must be re-tested on or before May 15th. If he declines to take the retest the FCC says that it will cancel his license and forbid him to operate on the air.

WIRELESS PRIVACY BILL REINTRODUCED

The Wireless Privacy Enhancement Act of 1999, HR514, has been introduced by Rep Heather Wilson of New Mexico. The measure is aimed at amending the Communications Act of 1934 "to strengthen and clarify prohibitions on electronic eavesdropping, and for other purposes."

"HR514 is identical to the amended version of HR2369 that passed the House on a 414-to-1 vote during the last session," said ARRL Legislative and Public Affairs Manager Steve Mansfield, N1MZA. The Senate did not act on that measure.

The original bill, HR2369, would have banned most types of scanners and scanner listening; however, the bill's sponsor, Rep Billy Tauzin, worked with the ARRL and representatives of manufacturers, public service organizations, and scanner enthusiasts to redraft the bill top to bottom.

HR514 forbids manufacturing or modifying scanners to receive cellular, PCS, or "protected" paging service frequencies. The bill also forbids receiving, divulging, publicizing, or utilizing such communication. The measure is part of a package of legislation introduced early in the session in the expectation that it will pass quickly and help restore Congressional momentum. Mansfield says, however, that the Senate prospects for HR514 remain murky.

While Amateur Radio appears to be unaffected by the new bill, the League is on record as opposing the expansion of prohibitions on radio monitoring beyond those that now exist to protect the privacy of services that interface with wireline networks.

The bipartisan list of co-sponsors of HR514 includes Reps Tauzin of Louisiana; Markey of Massachusetts; Oxley of Ohio; Eshoo and Rogan of California; Deal of Georgia; Wynn of Maryland; Cubin of Wyoming; Luther of Minnesota; Sawyer and Gillmor of Ohio; and Pickering of Mississippi.

Yaesu Does It Again

In their advertisements, Yaesu constantly says "Yaesu has done it again!" This time it is no advertising hype as Yaesu introduces the world's smallest tri-band handheld transceiver on earth. It is their new VX-5R.

The VX-5R is a miniature tri band FM transceiver with extensive receive frequency coverage, providing leading-edge features for 2M, 440MHz and 50MHz amateur communications along with unmatched monitoring capability.

The VX-5R's super thin profile and durable lightweight design allows you to take it anywhere- hiking, skiing, or while walking around town, and its operation flexibility brings the user many avenues of operating enjoyment. Besides the 50, 144, and 430 MHz transmit operation, the

Yaesu's New Tri-Band Handheld VX-5R

VX-5R provides receive coverage of the AM and FM broadcast bands, HF short-wave bands up to 16 MHz, VHF and UHF TV bands, the VHF AM aircraft band, and a wide range of commercial and public safety frequencies! With its unique optional Barometer pressure sensor unit provides readout of barometric pressure and altitude while mountain climbing and hiking.

The transmitter section provides 5 watts of clean power output on the 50 MHz and 144 MHz bands with the supplied FNB-58LI high-capacity Lithium-Ion battery pack, 7.2V @ 1100 mAh and 4.5 watts output on 430 MHz. When 13.8 V DC power is supplied from external source, power output is 5 watts

VX-5R-Features:

Frequency Coverage
Wide Band Receive
RX: 0.5-15.995 MHz, 48-728.990 MHz
800-998.990 MHz (Cellular Blocked)
TX: 50-54 MHz, 144-148 MHz, 430-450 MHz
5 W Power Output (430MHz: 4.5 W)
220 Memory Channels plus Home Channels
Ten Auto-Scan Weather Channels (North American Version)
MIL-STD 810 Rating
Aluminum Diecast Case
AM Aircraft Receive
AM Broadcast
FM Broadcast
CTCSS Encode/Decode, Digital Coded Squelch (DCS)
Backlit Keypad
Auto Range Transponder System
8 Character Alpha Numeric Display
Time Out Timer (TOT)
Dual Watch
Dot Matrix LCD
Smart Search
Spectrum Analyzer
Temperature Display Read-Out
Barometric Pressure Sensor (Optional SU-1 Unit)
Automatic Power-Off (APO)
ADMS-1E Windows PC Programmable (Optional)
High-Capacity Lithium-Ion Battery 7.2V @ 1100mAh (Supplied)
Super Thin Profile/Lightweight Design
16-Digit 9-Memory DTMF Autodialer
Busy Channel Lock Out (BCLO)
Innovative Multi-Section Antenna

Swap and Shop

Forsale: Icom 781 HF Transceiver. Mint condition, includes service manual $3200. Icom RP1220 1.2 Ghz fully Synthesised repeter (the new kind) $2100. Must pick up in Port Ludlow. Mark, WR7V 360 437-0718

Forsale:3 ea. RC100 Repeater Controllers $140.00 eachWith rack mount chassis and doc's. Work great!! Was just removed from service because ofupgrade to Link RLC-3 system.1 ea. RC85 Repeater Controller (PCB only)$200.00Was purchased from ACC in 1989. Also lost's of doc's and old ACC news letters from the 80's1 ea. ACC FP-900 with CTCSS Interface $100.00Is to be used with the RC85 controller and Icom band units. 1 ea. ICOM IC-900 UHF Band Unit $175.0 Pete, N7KFJ 425-313-5877

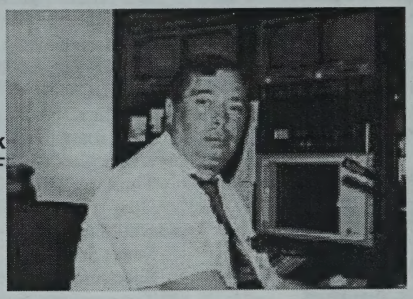
FCC a Coordinator?

By Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF

The failure of a frequency coordination counsel has forced the FCC to decide a mutual interference problem between two repeaters. In a letter to New Jersey's West Morris Amateur Wireless Association, the regulatory agency says that the trustee of the club repeater must cease the adjacent channel interference to an established WR2M repeater operating on an adjacent channel pair about ten miles away.

The mutual interference situation seems to have come about as the result of the disappearance of frequency coordination in the New York City, New Jersey and Southern Connecticut area.

Unable to solve the mutual interference and no longer having the TriState Amateur Repeater Council to intercede, William



Bill Pasternak WA6ITF

Lupo, WR2M, wrote to the FCC demanding relief. The FCC's answer was to warn the newer of the two machines, W2WMW, that its trustee would be in violation of Commission rules regarding malicious interference if it did not eliminate the disturbance to communications on the WR2M system.

But the FCC involvement did not end there. The FCC's Riley Hollingsworth also sent a letter to the mayor and city council of Hopatcong, New Jersey. In it, Hollingsworth explains what a repeater is and why both open and closed repeaters are permitted under FCC rules.

Hollingsworth has also questioned the legality of a fully automatic repeater to Internet Eyephone link operating on the W2WMW machine. He has asked the system license holder to supply detailed information regarding the connection and to show how it is kept under positive control.

Final comment

There seems to be a misconception that repeater coordinators and spectrum managers are also spectrum policemen. We, they, are not. They are merely advisors whose decisions are based on an understanding of both radio relay technology and the politics of a given region.

Twenty-five to thirty years ago, voluntary repeater coordination was 100% technology based because the repeater owners of the day were almost 100% technocrats. Today, most repeater owners are people who go to a local amateur supply store, buy a prepackaged repeater and antennas; rent a mountain top site and hire a commercial vendor to put it together and put it on the air. They have no concept of coordination and care little. It's only when a situation, akin to a lawyer from an existing group serving them with a law suit for massive interference to existing channel traffic, that they pick up their heads and come crying to the local coordinators for help. Then it's as a demand rather than a request.

Remember that coordinators are VOLUNTEERS! Unpaid volunteers! Eventually they tire and go away. Look at the NYC-NJ-CT area, where everyone has lost interest in coordination. The entire repeater community walked away from the Tri State Amateur Repeater Council. Now, as noted in the WR2M vs. W2WMW story reported on earlier beginning to reign.

For years, coordinators asked for acknowledgment of their services from the FCC and/or other government agency. To date this has not happened. Mainly because the coordinators blew the one opportunity handed them four years ago at the BOM in St. Charles, MO. The FCC said do it now - - the coordinators took over a year to get their act together, during that year the window closed, never, ever to open again.

The bottom line - - coordination is nothing but a 'recommendation.' There is nothing binding and no law to enforce it other than the laws of mankind regarding good will toward others. That law seems to be slowly fading in favor of greed and advance - - even in the world of amateur radio

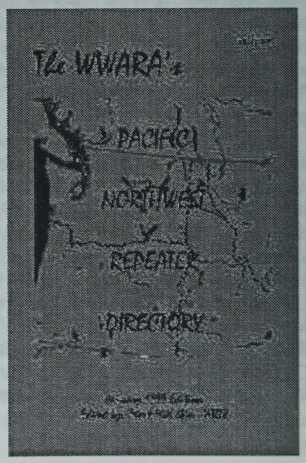
IT'S GREEN, IT'S HOT AND IT'S DELAYED

The 1999 issue of the *WWARA's Pacific Northwest Repeater Directory* originally scheduled for shipment in early May has been delayed due to missed deadlines.

Input and submission deadlines for the Directory were announced at the April WWARA Meeting, where all input and data to the directory was required to be in the editors possession by April 15. This would allow sufficient time to properly compile and edit the Directory and meet the printers schedule for the week of April 20 thru the 28. Copies would then been available the 1st of May. Data has been received from the ORRC (Oregon), IACC (eastern Washington) and BARCC (British Columbia) with the data for western Washington arriving on April 28.

Since the scheduled window to compile and edit the Directory has past and other previous personal commitments need to be honored there is no current schedule for the completion of the 1999 Directory. While it is still the intent to publish the Directory, it has taken on an "as time allows" status with no definite time for completion or distribution.

A special thank you to ORRC, IACC, BCARCC and Al Burelson K7HW for their timely input.



Name	Frequency	Location	Call	Expiration Date
Al Oczkewicz	145.390	Everett	W7CSK	22-Sep-98
Mike Olds	441.550	Mt Vernon		11-Jul-97
Pete Policani	147.200	Mt Brynion	K7PP	19-Dec-99
	446.200	Gold Mountain	K7PP	27-Sep-98
Jerry Repine	446.725	Bremerton	NC7U	27-Jun-99
Donald Sandstrom	440.350	Mercer Island	KG7CP	14-Sep-98
	445.350	Mercer Island	KG7CP	14-Sep-98
Patrick Senko	444.350	Bush Mountain	WA7USJ	25-Jun-99
	445.450	Olympia	WA7USJ	25-Jun-99
Mark Sheppard	443.000	Various	N7LYE	22-Aug-98
Bruce Shurtz	145.370	Octopuss Mountain	WC7AAO	24-Sep-97
	444.625	Grass Mountain	KA7HAM	25-Jun-98

April 3, 1999 General Meeting Minutes

The April 3rd General Meeting was held at the Seattle Times building in Bothell. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Jon Marcinko, WR7JM at 10:00am.

Introductions were made and a sign-in sheet was circulated. In attendance were: Mark McClain- N6OBY, Jon Marcinko- WR7JM, Herman Entz- K7PAG, Pete Kruml- N7KFJ, Ed Bruette- N7NVP, Rob Lee- K7TGU, Mike Crawford- WB7DFQ, Al Burleson- K7HW, Peter Dahl- WA7FUS, Steven Mayes- KA7PMC, Terry Martin- N7JTA, Chris Grafton- KB7RII, Mark McKibbin- WR7V, Nancy McKibbin- KB7BJE, Bob Gudel- K7IQ, Robert Donnell- KD7NM, Ken Koster- N7IPB, Marty Hadfield- WB7AFV, Don Martin- N7LXC, Clay Freinwald- K7CR, Stephen Pruss- KB7WKK

The minutes from the February 4, 1999, were approved. The financial report for 1998 year-end was read by the Treasurer, and approved. Records were available for members to review.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

ADJACENT AREAS:

Mark McKibbin reported he has received database information for IACC, ORRC, and BC. He also stated he received an email from Larry Smith indicating we may receive the coordination information for Idaho.

- IACC:No additional news.
- B.C.:No additional news.
- ORRC:Jon Marcinko reported that he talked with Carl Di Paolo about ways to improve communications between the WWARA and the ORRC. They are working towards a time and place to meet. They have also discussed what the protocol should be between our groups.

TECHNICAL -No news

6/10 Meters -No action items. Jon Marcinko reported that there is a new repeater in Portland- 53.35, PL 107.2.

2 Meters -The Board approved the move of 145.41 W7NTF repeater to Fort Lewis.

220 -No action items. It was reported that 224.58 appears to have moved. Jon Marcinko asked if we have received a coordination request for 224.58. The database shows no valid coordination at this time, and no pending requests.

440 -A test period was granted to Mark Shephard, N7LYE, for 440.775 and 441.500. The board approved the request from Jon Marcinko, WR7JM, to reverse the input/output of 430.400/439.400. A continuance was granted to Matt Kula, KJ7HS, to extend the construction period for 442.375. John Stein, AB7F, has submitted an request for coordination of 444.875 on Burley Mt. Marty Hatfield was requested to plot the predicted coverage before futher action is taken.

900/1.2 -No action items.

OLD BUSINESS

A discussion was held regarding co-channel issues on 147.26. The owner of the 147.26 repeater on Nanum, Chris Grafton, KB7RII, was in attendance. He stated that he was not necessarily interested in coverage in western Washington but would like to eliminate the nuisance problem of hearing other users, most likely from Western Washington, coming through his repeater during the unsquelch of his machine. After discussion of possible causes, Technical committee chairman Steve Mayes and his assistant Marty Hadfield agreed to work with Chris on a possible antenna reorientation to take care of the problem. They will be working with Chris this summer on the project. Chris also stated that he would be interested in linking with a compatible repeater on the westside.

The WWARA acknowledges and thanks World Radio, ARRL, FCC, Newsline, HamRadio Online and W5YI for allowing us to reprint some of their articles.

NEW BUSINESS

1999 Repeater Directories- Mark McKibbin reported that he will spend several hours formatting the data he received from the ORRC to prepare it for inclusion in the Directory. Additionally, Mark requested that information for those wanting to advertise be sent directly to him by April 15th.

- The Technical Committee will investigate software programs for RF coverage prediction.
- There is now a 'subscription' button on the WWARA website for Paid Members or Current Coordination Holders to receive an electronic version of the Coordinator. A discussion took place on how to manage the subscription requests from non-Members or those not holding a Current Coordination.

Jon Marcinko, WR7JM, closed the meeting at 11:58am, with a personal committent to further open up the lines of communications between the WWARA, ORRC, and IACC. Next Board meeting will be JUNE 3, 1999 at the Radio Club of Tacoma's club house, 1249 South Washington at 7:00 PM.

Western Washington Amateur Relay Association

Enclosed Please Find ____ Dollars for ____ Years Dues (12.00/yr)
and ____ Dollars for ____ Copies of WWARA Rptr Dir ($6 ea)

Name: _____ Call _____

Address: _____

City / St _____ Zip _____

Phone: _____ Email _____

Western Washington Amateur Relay Association
Post Office Box 65492
Port Ludlow, WA 98365-0492

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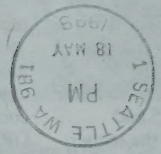
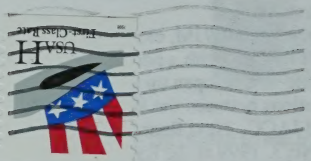
PM
18 MAY
1999





ROBERT DONNELL, N7NKJ
22820 84TH AVE W
EDMONDS, WA. 98026

Dues Exp.
12/2000

Meeting Notice:
The next WWARA Board of Directors meeting will be June 3 1999. The meeting will begin at 7:00 pm at the Radio Club of Tacoma Club House. The Secretary will be available at 6:45.

98026X8424 44

THE WESTERN WASHINGTON AMATEUR RELAY ASSOCIATION
SERVING REPEATER OWNERS AND USERS SINCE 1976

BOARD OF DIRECTORS, 1999

POSITION	NAME	CALL	PHONE
Chairman	Jon Marcinko	WR7JM	253 566-9049
Vice Chairman	Herman Entz	K7PAG	253 857-5946
Secretary/Treas.	Mark McClain	N6OBY	425 881-9389
Representative #1	Ed Bruette	N7NVP	360 698-0917
Representative #2	Mark McKibbin	WR7V	360 437-0718
Representative #3	Pete Kruml	N7KFJ	425 313-5877
Representative #4	Clay Freinwald	K7CR	253 939-1414

STANDING COMMITTEES:

Technical	Steve Mayes / Marty Hadfield	KA7PMC/WB7AFV	425 558-9525
Membership	Herman Entz	K7PAG	253 857-5946
Coordinator Editor	Mark McKibbin	WR7V	360 437-0718
10 & 6 Meters	Ed Bruette	N7NVP	360 698-0917
2 Meters	Al Burelson / Herman Entz	K7HW/K7PAG	253 857-5946
220 MHZ	Peter Kruml	N7KFJ	425 313-5877
440 MHZ	Ken Rau	K7YR	425 222-7711
900/1200	No One Volunteered		

Please feel free to contact your WWARA officials at any time for additional information about the Association. The COORDINATOR is published 6 times a year and mailed to all parties having a WWARA coordinated system as well as those whom are paid USER members. Dues are $12 per calendar year. The Coordinator is published BIMONTHLY. Address all formal correspondence and requests for coordination to: Visit the WWARA's web site at http://www.wwara.org

Western Washington Amateur Relay Association
PO Box 65492
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